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LETTER DATED 11 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ARMENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement issued on 11 February 1994 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nagorny Karabakh.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the statement as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alexander ARZOUMANIAN
Permanent Representative

Annex

The authorities of the Azerbaijani Republic have adopted an aggressive and uncompromising position in the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, relying conclusively on a military solution to the conflict. To achieve its goals, the Azerbaijani Government has availed itself of all possible means, including those which contradict international law.

Since the beginning of the conflict in the region, the Baku authorities, utilizing various excuses, have obstructed the attempts of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to visit Armenian prisoners-of-war detained under inhumane conditions in Azerbaijani prisons and camps. Under international law, it is the obligation of all countries that detain such prisoners to permit visits by ICRC. Azerbaijan's cynical dismissal of this obligation once again testifies to its attitude towards the internationally accepted norms of the civilized world.

Additionally, other outright violations of the norms of the Geneva Conventions have also become evident. Specifically, Armenian prisoners brought in from the conflict zone have been displayed on Baku television and before the representatives of foreign diplomatic missions in Azerbaijan. There is no doubt that the testimony obtained from these prisoners was taken under duress and torture.

While condemning the immoral activities of the authorities of Azerbaijan, which stand in violation of basic human rights, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nagorny Karabakh expresses its astonishment with regard to the participation of foreign diplomats in the display of the political prisoners.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nagorny Karabakh calls the attention of the international community to the above-mentioned facts and appeals to them to spare no effort to prevent the persecution of the prisoners by the Baku authorities, and to take measures to admonish those who are responsible.